

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the last office action mailed December 8, 2004, the Examiner indicated that although a priority document had been received in the Patent and Trademark Office, no claim to priority had been made in the application.

On December 11, 2003, the undersigned attorney for applicant telephoned the Examiner to advise that a claim of priority was made in the application data sheet filed with the application. The Examiner acknowledged that the priority claim had in fact been made and that the indication to the contrary in the office action was in error. Acknowledgement of the priority claim in the next office action is respectfully requested.

Objection has been made to the specification regarding the absence of a proper abstract of the disclosure, lack of headings, and an error in a reference numeral. An abstract of disclosure is provided herewith, and the specification has been amended to add headings and correct the erroneous reference numeral.

Claims 1-13, 16-24, 26-52 and 55-59 were in the application. In the last office action, objection was made to all of the claims due to informalities. In addition, claims 4, 6, 27, 38-52, and 55-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

All of the claims remaining in the application have been amended to address the formal objections and section 112 rejections.

Turning now to the art, claims 1-13, 16-19, 22-24 and 26-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Cronk; claims 20-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Cronk in view of Glover; claims 38-39, 41-46, 52, 55 and 57-59 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Glover; and claims 40, 47-51, and 56 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as obvious over Glover in view of Cronk.

None of the recited references discloses a pipe with a rib arranged on a flaring inside peripheral face of a ferrule, near the free end thereof, used for catching, entraining and spreading an adhesive which is deposited with the shape of a local ring on a flaring outside peripheral face of the end of a cylinder, and used at first as a lubricant, during the engagement of the ferrule on the cylinder, and then as an adhesive which fastens them together.

The claims have now been amended to overcome the rejections on art. More specifically, claim 1 has been amended to substantially include the limitations of claims 4-7 and now recites:

"wherein said continuous annular portion in relief comprises a single rib which is substantially closer, longitudinally, to a free edge of the ferrule than to said transition, said free edge being longitudinally opposite said transition and

wherein said inside peripheral face is fastened to said outside peripheral face by annular adhesive between them."

No such structure is anticipated or rendered obvious by either of the cited references whether considered individually or in combination.

Claim 26 has been amended to substantially include the limitations of claims 27-29 and now recites:

"wherein said continuous annular portion in relief is in the form of a single rib, and

wherein said rib is substantially closer, longitudinally, to a free edge of the ferrule than to said transition, said free edge being longitudinally opposite said transition."

Again, no such structure is anticipated or rendered obvious by either of the cited references whether considered individually or in combination.

Claim 38 has been amended to substantially include the limitations of claims 43, 45 and 52 and now recites:

"said inside peripheral face presents one continuous annular rib in relief, which is compressible, transversely, and formed integrally with the ferrule, said rib being substantially closer, longitudinally, to a free edge of the ferrule than to said transition, said free edge being longitudinally opposite said transition,

wherein between steps a) and b), a ring of adhesive is deposited on a localized zone of at least one of said outside peripheral face and said inside peripheral face selected in such a manner that during and after engaging the ferrule on the cylinder, said zone constitutes a zone of mutual contact via said adhesive and of application of said transverse pressure, and that, as the ferrule is engaged

coaxially on the annular end of the cylinder, when implementing step b), said rib facilitates the entrainment of said adhesive by the ferrule and the creation of a film thereof, and

wherein said adhesive serves as a lubricant during engagement of the ferrule coaxially onto the annular end of the cylinder, and subsequently serves to fasten them together."

As pointed out with respect to the claims discussed above, no such structure is anticipated or rendered obvious by either of the cited references whether considered individually or in combination.

The prior art cited but not applied in the rejection is believed to be inapposite to the claims.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,



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